

Right Steps Review



11-year-old Davie



11-year-old Debbie

A Double Dose of Love

Twin Brother and Sister Thrive Physically, Spiritually At Susana Homes; Reunited with Family

If you came to Susana Homes 9 to 12 years ago, you remember a little girl named Debbie and her brother who called himself, “Debbie-a-Boy”!

Twelve years ago this December, twin babies—underweight and jaundiced—were brought to Susana Homes because their mother had died giving birth. Often, we do not know what led to the mother’s death or what the family situation is like for infants who come to us. In times like this, we are glad to provide the needed care and love.

We often are honored to name our infants. In this case, we named Debbie and Davie after 3 Susana Homes’ family members: David and Debbie Scobey of Atlanta, Ga., and Debbie Worley of Lexington, Ky.

Baby Davie was the smaller of the twins and very sick. We worried

that he may not survive those early days. The mortality rate of children under the age of 5 is very high in our part of the world. Many of our older girls helped to care for him and little Debbie.

Slowly but assuredly, both babies began to thrive and grow. Their birth father visited them regularly when they were young, but a new wife and family soon occupied his time. Unfortunately, he did not provide the child support he had promised.

Earlier this year, Debbie and Davie’s father came to Susana Homes with his pregnant wife and their three children. We always hope and pray that every child should one day return to a birth

family or a permanent home, if possible. On September 22 this year, this dream came true for Debbie and Davie. Susana Homes worked with their father so that these two, now almost 12-year-olds, went home in the company of their father and uncle. We celebrate these reunions even though it is always a bittersweet celebration.

In Nigeria, many small infants do not make it to their first birthday. But Debbie and Davie thrived at Susana Homes. They were loved by many, cared for, and provided for. More important than anything else, they heard the word of God every day of their lives in the 12 years they lived with us at Susana Homes.

We miss them, but we are glad they were ours for a while and we are thankful to have served God by serving them. On behalf of Debbie and Davie, and all the children of Susana Homes past and present, we earnestly thank you and all those who help ensure a memorable and healthy childhood for our children. ■

Infants Davie and Debbie in 2009



2021 INFANT MORTALITY RATE COMPARISON*

NIGERIA: 69.8 deaths per 1,000 live births

UNITED STATES: 5.8 deaths per 1,000 live births

**Source: World Population Review*

Repairing a Vital Link

Paving the Road to a Brighter Future Begins Nov. 30

At Right Steps, our first priority is sharing God's love with our neighbors. But the poor condition of the only road leading from Susana Homes to the village prevents many essential activities. Vehicles can no longer travel down this street



because they get stuck in the mud. Right Steps Christian School students and university students cannot get to school. Church members cannot attend worship. Staff from Right Steps can't sell produce in the village, eliminating an important source of income.

With your help, we can provide a vital service to the Right Steps family and our surrounding community by building a new, durable road. On November 30 (this year's Giving Tuesday, a global day of giving following Cyber Monday), we will kickoff our *Paving the Road to a Brighter Future* fundraising campaign. Our goal is to raise \$461,000 to fund the construction of this indispensable thoroughfare. With God's blessing, we believe we can reach this goal through the generosity of several corporate supporters and many individual donors.

Please consider what you can do to help us. No gift is too small. We are so grateful for your support! ■

Donate online at:

<http://www.rightsteps.org>

Mail a check to:

Right Steps, Inc.
P.O. Box 458
Snellville, GA 30078

Tea Time in the Village

Every Friday evening, 2 or 3 of our staff fill a thermos full of tea and pack up some crackers. Then, using a rickshaw bike or scooter, they travel to 4 villages in our surrounding community. In each village, our staff sits with elderly women for a time of fellowship. They read scripture in the Igbo language, pray, and sing a few songs. Afterwards, they share some tea and crackers. This act of kindness and service is much appreciated by our elderly neighbors.

The Igbo are one of the three major tribes in Nigeria. Within the Igbo tribe are many subgroups which are socially and culturally diverse. Today, Igbos are primarily Christians. ■



Our Mission

Right Steps, Inc. exists to walk with Christ as we serve the women and children of Southeast Nigeria



Our Staff

Right Steps, Inc. employs 30 Nigerian individuals on site at Susana Homes and Right Steps Christian School. We have two U.S. employees, as well as our Board of Directors and other vital volunteers.

- Dr. Chi Ekwenye-Hendricks, Missionary, Director of Right Steps, Inc.
- Elder Julius Nkwo Ekwenye, Spiritual Coordinator
- Mr. Umoh Mbe, Project Manager
- Mrs. Glory Kartay, Principal, Right Steps Christian School
- Evangelist Michael Moka, Outreach Minister
- Mrs. Uduak Mbe, RN/Matron
- Suzette Price, U.S. Administrator

Gifts Received

In Honor Of:

Jim Dobbs
Helen Dobbs

Abbey & Hannah Howard
Helen Dobbs

In Loving Memory:

Kim Stewart Starks
Nicole Barrett
Bonita Brown
Chirmere Harris
Rachelle Hawkins
Zelphanie Riley

Truett Scales
Buford Ladies' Bible Class



To Make a Memorial or Honor Gift

1) Give online! Visit www.rightsteps.org.

Follow the link to DONATE and you will be taken to our secure donation site hosted by squarespace.

2) Give by mail! The enclosed gift of

\$_____ is given in

Memory of or Honor of _____.

Please notify:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email address _____

Right Steps, Inc.
PO Box 458, Snellville, GA 30078

Board of Directors

- Cheris Baker
- Jan Blackwell, Vice President
- James Boggess
- Sue Finley, Treasurer
- Camille Fortson
- Christie Howard
- Moises Matos, Secretary
- Bob Price, President
- Allen Read
- Anita Swayne